



Michigan Department of Education

Assessment & Accountability Announcements - Week of November 18, 2013

There are **TWO IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS** below regarding: 1) Spring 2014 Smarter Balanced Field Test – NOW ACCEPTING Michigan 11th Grade; 2) MME ACT-Spring 2014 Training.

1) Spring 2014 Smarter Balanced Field Test Application Extended for Michigan 11th Grade Participation

There is still a **large need for Michigan 11th graders to participate** in the Spring 2014 Smarter Balanced Field Test. If your high school is interested in applying to have 11th graders participate, please go to <http://www.formstack.com/forms/fieldtest-fieldtestenrollment> and complete the registration information.

Schools have the opportunity to choose whether to participate in field testing in English Language Arts, Mathematics, or both content areas. Additionally, schools have the opportunity to select the preferred testing window. Please submit your school's interest in 11th graders participating in the field test by the deadline of **Tuesday, November 26, 2013.**

Schools should only [register](#) for the 11th grade field test at this time. Schools that use this extension to register for grades 3 through 10 are highly unlikely to be selected for the field test for those grade levels.

The Smarter Balanced Field Test is an excellent opportunity for schools to participate in a computer adaptive assessment measuring the breadth of the English Language Arts and Mathematics Common Core State Standards, using rich item types. **Participation in the Smarter Balanced Field Test this spring also counts towards the participation requirement for the Michigan 22i TRIG grant.** Additionally, this is a valuable opportunity for schools and districts to evaluate technology readiness for online testing.

If you have questions about registering your school for the Smarter Balanced Field Test, please call the ETS Enrollment Group at 855-325-1348. Further information can also be found under the "What's New" section of the MME website at: www.michigan.gov/mme

2) Michigan Merit Exam Spring 2014 Training Information

New for the spring 2014 administration of the Michigan Merit Examination (MME): Training will be offered via pre-recorded webcast. The webcast can be viewed now at www.mistreamnet.org.

- a. Go to that page and click on videos in the upper right-hand corner.
- b. Scroll down the page and you will locate the webcast in five separate chapters.
- c. This webcast replaces the in-person training sessions.

All Test Supervisors, Backup Supervisors, and Test Accommodation Coordinators should view the webcast and thoroughly review the training materials. Staff members who are newly appointed in these positions are also **required** to register for and participate in a Question and Answer Session via webinar or phone. Dates and start times are listed below. Any school that had a misadministration in 2013 or received a warning letter is also expected to participate in the Q&A session. To participate in a Q&A session, you must pre-register at least 48 hours before the session start time. You will receive a separate email with registration information when the registration window opens. An email confirmation will be sent to you upon successful registration. This confirmation will contain the URL link to join the Q&A session as well as the call in number to be able to hear and ask questions during the Q&A session.

Spring 2014 Michigan Merit Exam (MME) Training Packets were shipped to schools on Monday, October 28, 2013. You should have your training packet to refer to when you view the training webcast.

Question & Answer Sessions Referred to Above	
Date	Start Time
December 10, 2013	9:00 am
December 16, 2013	3:00 pm
December 18, 2013	9:00 am
January 8, 2014	3:00 pm

If you have questions, please contact us by email at BAA@michigan.gov or call 877-560-8378 and select option 3.

Have Other Questions?

For assessment questions, please email BAA@michigan.gov.

For accountability questions, please email MDE-Accountability@michigan.gov.

For phone assistance with assessment or accountability issues, call 877-560-8378 and select the appropriate menu option.